GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
FINANCE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1929
ANSWERED ON:09.03.2001
SMUGGLING OF SYNTHETIC DRUGS
BIJOY KRISHNA HANDIQUE

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to take steps to prevent smuggling of synthetic drugs into the country from across the border;

(b) whether the Government are aware that a new route for supply of drug the `Golden Corridor` has emerged in the recent years; and

(c) if so, the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN)

(a) : Significant steps have been taken by the Governmentof India to prevent smuggling of synthetic drugs into the country. These include notifying the precursor chemicals as `controlled substances` under the NDPS Act, constantvigil, stepping up of enforcement efforts, gearing up of intelligence machinery, vesting of powers in BSF and Coast Guards under the Customs Act to interdict drugs on the border, holding of quarterly coordination meeting of all the enforcement agencies and stringent action under NDPS Act against persons arrested for drug trafficking.

(b) : The reports received do not indicate the emergence of a new route known as `Golden Corridor` for supply of drugs.

(c) : Does not arise.